

IN THE CLAIMS

1(currently amended). A takeout mechanism for gripping a bottle formed at the blow station of an I.S. machine, displacing the bottle to a location proximate a deadplate and releasing the bottle onto the deadplate comprising

a tong arm,

a tong head secured to said tong arm for gripping a bottle,

means including a control

for displacing said tong arm from a first position whereat the bottle is gripped at the blow station to a second position a first selected distance above the deadplate,

for holding said tong arm at said second position for a selected time,

at the end of said selected time, displacing said tong arm downwardly toward the deadplate to a third position, and

when said selected tong head is at said third position, releasing the bottle onto the ~~conveyor~~ deadplate.

2(original). A takeout mechanism for gripping a bottle formed at the blow station of an I.S. machine according to claim 1, wherein said third position is a predetermined spacing above the deadplate.